



Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Natural Heritage Program

Rudbeckia scabrifolia L.E. Brown
Sabine Coneflower, Roughleaf Coneflower, Bog Brown-Eyed Susan



Identification: Plants to 2 m tall. Stems striate, terete, glabrous, somewhat glaucous. Leaves entire to undulate, non-glaucous, scabrous-pubescent; basal leaves oval or ovate, often abruptly acute at the apex, the blade truncate or broadly cuneate at the base, decurrent 1-3 cm down the petiole, to 24 cm long and 16 cm wide, the principal lateral veins arcuate, the petiole to 36 cm long; cauline leaves remotely arranged, becoming smaller and sessile upward, bracteal in the inflorescence. Heads 2-11 per stem, rarely solitary. Phyllaries in 3-5 series, the outer series reflexed, the innermost phyllaries subtending ray flowers. Receptacle hemispherical, to 25 mm long and 20 mm wide (in fruit); receptacular bracts obtuse-acutish and densely pubescent at the apex, to 6 mm long, ca. 1.5 mm wide on each lateral side. Ray corolla pale yellow, reflexed with age, to 3 cm long and 9 mm wide. Disc flower corolla 4.5mm long, the limb 3.7 mm long, the teeth erect, 0.8 mm long; style branches obtuse, 1.6 mm long. Fruits mostly dark purple, light purple at the apex, 3-4.5 mm long. Pappus an irregularly toothed or lacerate crown, 1-1.6 mm long.

Key ID characters:

- Plant up to 2 m in height.
- Stems lacking hairs; leaves are rough to touch (scabrous) and entire or undulating.
- Heads 2-11 per stem.
- Phyllaries in 3-5 series; outer ones bent downwards.
- Ray corollas are pale yellow.
- Disk corollas are dark purple.

Habitat: Western hillside seepage bogs in longleaf pine woods, especially in Vernon Parish.

Taxonomic Comments: This species is a member of the family Asteraceae. There are about 10 taxa of the genus *Rudbeckia* known to occur in LA, with a total of about 20 species found in North America.

Status:

Wetland: No Data

Global: G2G3 - Imperiled - Vulnerable

State: S2 - Imperiled



Western Hillside Seepage Bog

Range: Louisiana and Texas.

Soils: Acidic soils that are usually wet.

Similar Species: *R. scabrifolia* most closely resembles *R. maxima*. The disk is 4-8 cm long (while in fruit) for *R. maxima*, whereas it is less than 4 cm long in *R. scabrifolia*. *R. maxima* is most often found in northwestern LA, whereas *R. scabrifolia* has a slightly more southerly distribution. It should be noted that only *R. scabrifolia* is found in acid seepage areas.



R. hirta



R. grandiflora, Photo by L. Urbatsch

Reason for Rarity: Habitat loss, limited natural range, fire suppression allowing invasion of woody species, and alteration of natural hydrology of bog areas.

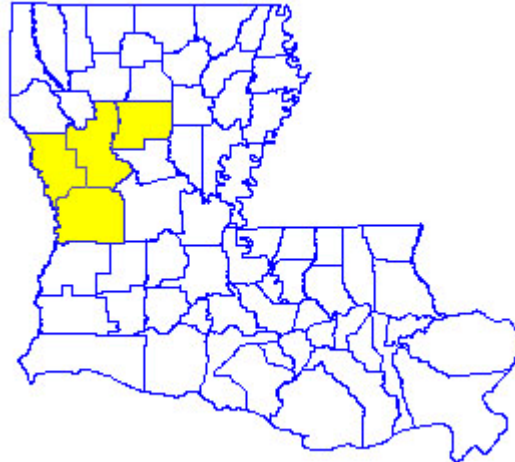
Known Distribution in Louisiana:

Natchitoches*, Sabine, Vernon, Winn

* Indicates unverified presence in parish.

Dates of Natural Heritage Program Observations:

1933, 1980, 1987(3), 1988(2), 1990(13),
1992(12), 1993(29), 1994, 1995(2)

Best Time for Viewing this Species:

Distribution in Louisiana

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